

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS
1040 E. HERNDON AVENUE, SUITE 205
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93720-3158
(559) 447-3300
FAX (559) 447-3304**



March 4, 2002

TO: ALL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

The Department of Health Services (Department) will be accepting State Revolving Fund pre-applications for projects designed to achieve compliance with two new Federal regulations. These regulations address control of pathogens in surface water sources and disinfection byproducts in all systems that practice disinfection. More information on these new rules is provided below:

On January 1, 2004, new requirements will become effective that may apply to your water supply system and possibly your treatment plant operations. This regulation is referred to as the Stage 1 Disinfection Byproducts Rule. This regulation requires that water systems using a disinfection treatment process meet water quality standards for disinfection byproducts, which are formed when water is treated with a disinfectant. This new regulation also requires systems that operate conventional surface water treatment plant(s) to achieve acceptable levels of total organic carbon (TOC) removal at their treatment plant. Compliance with the TOC removal requirement is based on paired samples of the raw and treated water TOC and a raw water alkalinity sample.

A second new regulation, referred to as Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule goes into effect on January 14, 2005. A similar regulation applied to systems serving >10,000 population and supplying treated surface water became effective January 1 of this year. Attached is a summary of this new regulation. You can obtain additional information at the following web site <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/mdbp/lt1eswtr.html>.

Both of these new regulations are complicated and will require careful study on your part to assure that your system properly addresses all aspects of these rules. The American Water Works Association, the Environmental Protection Agency and other industry groups are scheduling training to assist utility staff in complying with the rule. Please contact these organizations or your local Department District office for more information and guidance on these rules and the anticipated training sessions.

To assure timely compliance with these requirements, the Department will accept State Revolving Fund pre-applications for funding of projects needed to assure compliance with these scheduled new regulations. A pre-application form can be obtained from your local District office or your local County Environmental Health Department.



All Public Water Systems

Page 2

March 4, 2002

If you have any questions concerning these criteria, please contact your local District office for additional guidance and information. The web site listed below has the addresses and phone numbers of the Department's District offices:

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/technical/dwp/DWDistOfficesMap.pdf>.

Sincerely,

David P. Spath, Ph.D., P.E., Chief
Division of Drinking Water and
Environmental Management

cc: LPA's
Branch Chiefs
Regional Engineers
District Engineers